AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of assigning a numerical value to a threat posed by the cargo container in response to the processing step~~ A method for maintaining security of a cargo container during shipment from an origination point to a destination, the cargo container including a container security unit (CSU), the method comprising:

   receiving updates from the CSU during the shipment of the cargo container; and

   classifying or scoring the container to assess the level of threat presented as new data about threat patterns and relationships are discovered during the shipment.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising ~~the step of~~ triggering an alert when [[the]] a score of the container ~~numerical value~~ exceeds a predetermined threshold.

Claims 9-26 (Cancelled)

27. (New) A system for maintaining security of a cargo container during shipment from an origination point to a destination, the system comprising:

    means for determining geographic location of the cargo container during shipment from the origination point to the destination; and

    a battery-powered container security unit (CSU) for the container, the CSU reporting on status of the cargo container during the shipment, wherein frequency of the reporting is a function of the geographic location of the container.

28. (New) The system of claim 27, further comprising a CSU bridge for communicating with the CSU.